

SO CAL DX BUL

The Newsletter of the Southern California DX Club est 1947

The Southern California DX Club is a proud group of men and women of the world wide Amateur Radio community that enjoys communications with other Amateurs around the world.

The newsletter is published every month and is released to it's members on about the first of each month. Amateur and DX related letters, news and pictures are welcome and will be used as time and space permit. Articles may be republished with the recognition of the author and the Club. Any questions regarding this newsletter or it's articles should be addressed to the Editor.

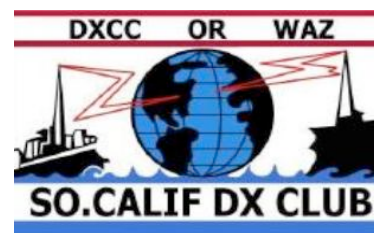
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Meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month except April, June and December. Other times may occur

Repeater: W6AM/R145.48,(-) 100Hz PL

Please check the Club web site at
<http://www.scdxc.org>

November 2008



**DON'T FORGET TO SET YOUR
CLOCKS BACK
SUNDAY NOV 2 0200 HRS**

- | | |
|---------|------------------------------------|
| 1 - 3 | ARRL November Sweepstakes (CW) |
| 15 - 16 | ARRL International EME Competition |
| 15 - 17 | ARRL November Sweepstakes (Phone) |
| 29 - 30 | CQ WW DX CW Contest |



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THE PREZ SEZ

I read some good news in the QRZ DX newsletter that I think is worth passing on, if you haven't already read about it. In quote, it says, "A "new cycle" sunspot belonging to Solar Cycle 24 is emerging near the sun's northeastern limb. This is the third time in as many weeks that a new cycle sunspot has interrupted the year's remarkable run of blank suns. The accelerating pace of new-cycle sunspot production is an encouraging sign that, while solar activity remains very low, the sunspot cycle is unfolding more or less normally. We are not stuck in a permanent solar minimum." This is good news considering the long sunspot drought we have had. I knew something good was happening when I made contact with three new countries in two days.

The announcement was made at the October general meeting that the price for our year-end party at the Orange Hill Restaurant will be \$37.50 each or \$75.00 per couple. Considering the scrumptious, multi-item buffet they provide and our own private room with a marvelous scenic view, the price is right.

Checks are to be sent to Art "Doc" Hollub, N6OGO. For details, check the SCDXC website. <http://www.scdxc.org>

The "added dessert" is the grand raffle prize of a PALSTAR AUTO ANTENNA TUNER and a lovely gift for each lady that attends.

I look forward to seeing you at the November meeting on the 13th. Maybe Sharon Paquette will have some Thanksgiving treats for us all. Yum-yum.

88's, Sharon Spring, K6IRD
President

To All You Great DX'ers...

For the month of November we will be having Bob Grimmick N6OX as our guest speaker. He will be talking on one of his exciting DX Expeditions. Bob always has funny stories to tell and experiences to share. You can't lose with him doing a talk! Hope you will join us on Thursday, November 13th.



I want to also remind you of the Holiday Party at Orange Hill coming up on December 7, 2008. Please get your money in early to reserve your spot. It's just around the corner. We will have a fantastic main raffle prize that anyone would love to win! Plus, many other nice raffle items. Bring your lady with you - there is a ladies only gift for her. Plus a special drawing for some really great prizes sure to put a smile on her face. The food at Orange Hill is great and of course you can't beat the company or the topic!

I wish you all a Happy Thanksgiving and hope to see all of you at our November meeting plus the Holiday Party! Remember...get your money in now! Tom Paquette - N6OT V.P. Vice President SCDXC

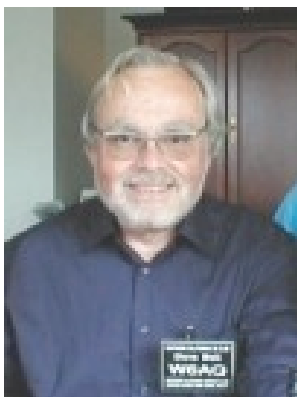
Don't forget to get your raffle tickets for the Palstar Auto Tuner

Palstar AT-AUTO 1500 Watt Automatic Antenna Tuner

The Palstar AT-AUTO 1500 watt auto-tuner now has a new feature. QRO Keyline now protects your amplifier and tuner from damage during tune-up...(read more)

New! Palstar Firmware Uploader Software: You can now update your AT-AUTO firmware directly from your PC...(read more)

[Current AT-AUTO Firmware = REV 2.09 8 SEPT 2008]



QRM from the Editor

If you didn't check out our web site in October, get over there right now to see how some vandals have tried to turn our beloved club shack into some kind of a haunted mansion! I hope the perpetrator(s) had as much fun redoing our shack into a scary mansion as I did discovering it. Congrats!

And now to the subject of the month:

VEEPS

Professionally and personally, the late 70's and early 80's were the busiest of my life. I had a lot of television shows going, a fairly big company to find business for, plus four children and Sam who now and then needed some attention.

I mention this because I was also vice president of SCDXC in '78, president in '79, and chairman of the International DX Convention in 1980. In 1978, the sunspots were getting more plentiful and by 1980 we were near the peak of that cycle – so I got on the air a lot too.

How did I find time for all of that? I made time, that's how. The old homily is, "...if you want to get a job done, ask a busy person to do it."

Being vice president of SCDXC is not a very hard job, frankly. The main duty is to put together programs for the monthly meetings, and they're not hard to find!

One of the reasons I was successful at VEEP was that I enlisted everyone's aid. Every meeting I'd challenge the members to name somebody they'd like to have give a presentation at a club meeting. There were always suggestions, some of them borderline preposterous ("...let's get Barry Goldwater..." for example) but many of them really creative, however off the wall.

The secret to getting any job done is delegate – ask for help. There's plenty out there, you just need to ask.

The International DX Convention in 1980 was the one that gave away free jackets with the "patch" already sewed on – free to the first 500 hams to register for the convention. N6IC could tell you, but I think that was the biggest pre-reg in the history of the convention, at least up until then.

The jackets came our way because my pal and club member Bernie, W6PJX, knew another ham who owned a garment factory and he just happened to have five or six hundred jackets – remainders from a big order – that Bernie, with a little help from me, talked him into giving us for free – and the factory owner wasn't even a DXer! I bought Bernie and him lunch at Musso and Frank grill in Hollywood and the deal was done. Thanks, Bernie!

That was also the first year that we actually sold raffle tickets, I do believe. That idea came from one of my other club-member pals Dave, K6LPL. Dave also said that we'd need to have some major league prizes in order to sell thousands of tickets, so a whole crew of us started calling manufacturers and distributors, and the donations came rolling in. Thanks, Dave!

That year I wanted to have a lot of DX stations represented, so we printed fancy invitations and everyone in the club who knew some overseas ham even a little bit sent him one of our engraved invitations. The first 20 or so to respond to our invitation were given a free room. And on and on. Lots of club members volunteered, especially after they were asked.

This flurry of fun years for me started when someone asked me to run for VEEP and I accepted. If I remember correctly, there was at least one other person running for the position against me, though then, as now, if you've served as VEEP you've got a leg up on the presidency next year unless you totally screw up the VEEP job, which is hard to do.

So why aren't we getting more members to run for VEEP? Are you too busy? Doesn't matter. Have you been VEEP before? Doesn't matter. Too new in the club to run for office? No you're not. Consider yourself asked

Because I'm moving to Leucadia, 100 miles south of here on December 1st or so, I can't continue to be Editor of the Bul because I won't be coming to many meetings even though I'm staying a member of the SCDXC. I asked Don, NK6A to replace me as editor and after thinking it over, he agreed to do it if I could wait to early next year. Done deal. Because I asked.

I'm asking. How about volunteering yourself for VEEP? It'll be fun!

73, and I'll see you on the radio." --, W6AQ



"Arnie's whimsical pose turned out to be perfectly appropriate for the talk he gave about his (mis)adventures on the Clipperton Island DXpedition. Most talks about DXpeditions are pretty straight-ahead and predictable. Arnie's talk was fascinating and funny -- all you wanted to know about going on a DXpedition but were afraid to ask. If you missed it, you missed it. If you were there, you know that I dare not say more on advice of counsel." -- W6AQ

73, Dave

SCDXC (CA)

Dear Fellow DX-ers and Contesters,

You are cordially invited to the Asia Pacific DX Convention on November 7 through 9, 2008.

Please take a look at the website to see some photos and presentation videos from the first APDXC which was held in 2005. The many DX-ers from all over the world who attended enjoyed it very much.

In addition to the usual presentations of recent DX-peditions, technical sessions, etc., this convention offers something special. Since it's being held in the country from which most of the modern amateur radio equipment comes from, you'll have the opportunity to tour the Icom factory, participate in a Q&A session with Icom engineers, tour the electronics district, and more.

We would appreciate your introducing this convention to your DX/contest club members. Please see our website for more details at: <http://www.apdxc.org/>



Larry, K6YUI---Ernie, N6HY

"If you get to the meetings right on time as many of us do, you may not fully appreciate these two guys. They are a couple of what the movie business calls Grips. These are two of the guys who get to the meetings early and set up the chairs and tables and make sure everything is shipshape for the ham onslaught to follow. Next time you see either of them, you might thank them for making life easier for you." --W6AQ

Hello...

Check out our site – you might find it interesting...

We are presently hosted at <http://frrl.wordpress.com>

Please feel free to redistribute this e-mail to others who might be interested.

Recent Postings:

- Inside the Black Box of Short Wave Radio
- Life on HF - The MFJ-1796 6-Band HF Antenna for Limited Space
- How the RELAY got into the ARRL
- Life on HF - DX Clusters using Spot Collector and DX View
- Commentary: Amateur Radio Beginnings - why kids today are not Hams
- General Electric Research in RF circa. 1934
- Product Review: Yaesu FT-7800R
- The Wave Bubble - Protecting your personal space from RF Intrusion
- Collecting Heathkit Models SB-101,102 & HW-100,101
- Product Review - The Ultra 1000VA/600 Watt Time Machine
- 50 MB of Penguin Power - PC Emulator with Embedded Linux
- What's the (Black) Magic in the Jack. Voice over IP
- Product Review - The MFJ-209 Antenna Analyzer
- History of Receiver Design - 1912 Regeneration and Building the TecTec 1253
- Blast from the past - Our Kenwood Hybrid Collection
- The Age of SuperHeterodyne - Building the Ramsey SR2 Kit
- Living Life on HF - The Age of Power

TIME CHANGE NOV 2

Hello DXers:

The following came in earlier today while I was away from home. Many of you will have already seen/heard this, but for those who have not, here is the good news:

I am pleased to provide you with this Press release.
73, Bob-K4UEE

Press Release # 1----Desecheo KP5----2009

The Caribbean National Wildlife Refuge Complex has selected and announced a team of operators to activate Desecheo Island (KP5) sometime between January 15, 2009 and March 30, 2009. The Team will be co-led by Dr. Glenn Johnson, WØGJ and Bob Allphin, K4UEE.

Background: On June 30, 2008, the Caribbean National Wildlife Refuge office in Puerto Rico sent a letter to persons that had previously made inquiries about an Amateur Radio operation from Desecheo. They announced their decision to allow one group to activate the island and invited proposals that must adhere to strict guidelines and criteria. Applicant's had 45 days to prepare and submit their proposals.

CNWR received seven written proposals. A panel of three Fish and Wildlife Service employees, from areas within the Service outside of the Caribbean refuge, spent September 24 & 25 reviewing and evaluating the proposals. The selection criteria used were those outlined in the proposal invitation letter. Points were awarded for how well criteria were addressed for thoroughness and documentation. The proposal with the highest ranking was submitted by team leaders Dr. Glenn Johnson, WØGJ, and Bob Allphin, K4UEE.

Their plan involves a team of fifteen operators for a 14-day operation. USFWS has not announced the actual dates of the operation yet, but the DXpedition is expected to take place between January 15, 2009 and March 30, 2009. A Special Use Permit (SUP) will be issued as per USFWS regulations. We expect that the DXpedition team and DXers worldwide will have a minimum of 30 days notice.

A website is being planned and will be announced in the near future.

73,
Carl, N4AA

SILENT KEY

Paolo Cortese, I2UIY

Paolo was a well known DXpeditioner and QSL Manager. He was 48 years old. Our condolences to his family and friends. Dave, G4BUO reported Sunday that Paolo had been hospitalized for several weeks following a brain hemorrhage. He said, "Paolo was the Father of the EU Sprints, and he put so much work into these contests, including funding the certificate programme from his own pocket. He was a real enthusiast and I will miss his emails where his sense of humor and fun were always in evidence."

Rick, NQ4I said Sunday, "The contesting community lost a great friend in Paolo. He will be missed by all who he touched in his life. He had just been inducted into the Contesting Hall of Fame at Dayton this past May. I had visited Paolo many times at his home in Broni, and we had enjoyed many fine Italian meals together. There would always be other DXers and testers at these dinners too. There will always be a memory of Paolo each time I fly into Milan from now on. 73 and RIP Paolo."

STOLEN EQUIPMENT

Bob, K4SE, Faculty Advisor for the radio club at East Tennessee State University in Johnson City, TN reports the theft of

several pieces of equipment from the club station sometime last

week (probably on Tuesday, Oct. 7th.)

The items are Kenwood TS-680, SN-9120681; Kenwood PS-

430, SN-0020059; Kenwood TM-261A, SN 70400378 and an

Alinco DR-570T, SN 0001978. Please be on the lookout for these items at flea markets and on

Ebay. Contact Bob May, K4SE <k4se@embarqmail.com>.

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- * Dimensions: 12 1/2" wide x 5 1/2" high x 16" deep
- * Shipping weight: 25 lbs

MAIN PRIZE OF THE HOLIDAY PARTY
SIGN UP NOW

Know your Leaders
Election of officers is coming soon
sign up and be part of the leadership of the club.
Put constructive DX ideas to work.



Sharon, K6IRD
President



Dave, W6AQ
Director and Editor
of the SCDXC Bul



Tom, N6OT
Vice President



Steve, W6NRQ
Secretary and Publisher of
the SCDXC Bul

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